

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONIN THE SPECIFICATION

Please rewrite the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 12 through page 17, line 2 as follows:

B' In step 324, it is determined if the value of the chase level parameter is -1. If step 320 fell through the "No" branch because a chase having a chase level greater than one completed, then necessarily the value of the chase level cannot be -1, and step 316 also falls through the "No" branch. If, however, step ~~312~~ 320 fell through the "No" branch because the chase level was not greater than one (that is, either zero or a negative value) then it is determined, in step ~~316~~ 324, if the chase level is -1. (An artisan of ordinary skill would understand that alternative embodiments of the present invention may implement other decision values for the chase level parameter, which embodiments would be within the spirit and scope of the present invention.) If so, then in step 326 the selected attributes, in the attributes parameter retrieved from the search request in step 304, are returned for all nodes pointed to by a reference, that is a value of an attribute having the DN\_Ref syntax. If, however, the value of the chase level parameter is not -1, step 326 is bypassed.